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IN BRIEF

GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER

Evaluating ovarian cancer cell lines as tumour models

A comparison of datasets from The Cancer Genome Atlas and the Cancer Cell Line Encyclopedia has shown that ovarian cancer cell lines used in research might not be good models of ovarian cancer. About 50 ovarian cancer cell lines were ranked according to their genomic similarity to clinical samples of high-grade serous ovarian cancer (HGSOC). The two most-popular cell lines, used in 60% of publications on HGSOC, did not resemble HGSOC well; the 12 cell lines that most closely resembled HGSOC were used in only 1% of publications. Similar studies could be used for other cancer cell lines to assess their relevance to the clinical situation.

Original article Domcke, S. *et al.* Evaluating cell lines as tumour models by comparison of genomic profiles. *Nat. Commun.* doi:10.1038/ncomms3126

BREAST CANCER

Comparison of risk-of-recurrence scores in breast cancer

A study has compared the onco*type* DX® recurrence score (RS)—used to estimate risk of distant recurrence (DR) in women with oestrogen receptor (ER)–positive early stage breast cancer—with the PAM50 risk of recurrence (ROR) score. Prognostic information provided by RS, ROR, or IHC4—an index of DR risk based on expression of specific cell-surface markers—was assessed in 1,017 patients with ER-positive primary breast cancer after endocrine therapy. ROR provided more prognostic information in endocrine-treated patients with ER-positive, node-negative disease than RS, with better differentiation of intermediate-risk and higher-risk groups.

Original article Dowsett, M. *et al.* Comparison of PAM50 risk of recurrence score with onco*type* DX and IHC4 for predicting risk of distant recurrence after endocrine therapy. *J. Clin. Oncol.* doi:10.1200/JCO.2012.46.1558

HEALTH POLICY

Lack of research on link between cancer and mental health

A study has examined the level of research being performed on the intersection between cancer and mental health. Using the sub-field filters 'mental disorder' and 'cancer' to retrieve research papers from the Web of Science between 2002 and 2011, 1,463 papers were identified on this topic, representing 0.26% of cancer research and 0.51% of mental health research. These results highlight a transdisciplinary gap in health-care research that should be addressed.

Original article Purushotham, A. *et al.* Cancer and mental health—a clinical and research unmet need. *Ann. Oncol.* doi:10.1093/annonc/mdt214

UROLOGICAL CANCER

Serum androgens levels are prognostic in prostate cancer

Serum androgen levels have been shown to be prognostic for overall survival in 1,195 patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer in a phase III study of abiraterone acetate plus prednisone versus prednisone alone. A baseline serum androgen level above median (median levels of testosterone, androstenedione, and dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate were 5.0 ng/dL, 23.7 ng/dL, and 16 µg/dL, respectively) was associated with longer survival in both treatments arms.

Original article Ryan, C. J. *et al.* Serum androgens as prognostic biomarkers in castration-resistant prostate cancer: results from an analysis of a randomized phase III trial. *J. Clin. Oncol.* doi:10.1200/JCO.2012.45.4595